



Welcome to the
West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan
Open Hall on 8th & 15th October 2016 10am – 4pm

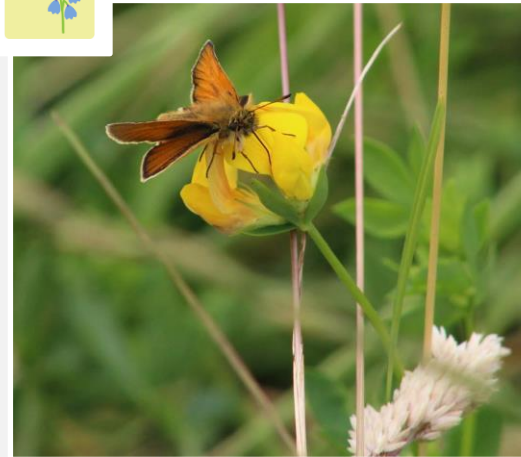


The government's Localism Act gave us all the chance to influence how our Neighbourhood develops in the future through such plan. A group of local residents, Parish Councillors, businesses and community organisations formed **The Neighbourhood Plan steering group** and started to think about what a Neighbourhood Plan for West Bergholt might say. Making sure that what is special about West Bergholt now stays special and protects our children's future.

Eight exciting aspects of importance for our village are identified.



Environment



Courtesy of Ian Jacqui Rowing

We want to protect the existing natural and urban environment and explore opportunities to create new areas of open space.

- Changes in land use will be resisted and access to the countryside enhanced through use of the Public Right Of Way network.
- Littering and dog fouling issues will need to be addressed and resisted.
- Our plan contains policies to protect the environment.



Communications



We seek to keep the community informed through a wide range of media outlets, promoting dialogue and furthering the opportunity for participation in decision making.

- A West Bergholt communications forum will be established in order for all ages and skills to be involved, residents will be encouraged to respond and give feedback.
- The West Bergholt web site will continue to be developed and information via printed means will be maintained.
- Broadband services will seek to be enhanced.

What happens next?

We hope you have found the exhibition boards to be of interest, and have stimulated your thinking. We need your views. Please complete the survey by visiting www.westbergholt.net-neighbourhoodplan where you will find an on-line link to an electronic or paper questionnaire to complete.

The full Neighbourhood Plan will be on the village website (westbergholt.net). It will feature evidence and data of how we came to our conclusions and suggestions. Please do look it up! Then in due course the parish will be asked to vote if the plan should be accepted and if so it will be incorporated in Colchester Borough's new Local Plan to 2033 and have legal planning status.

For further enquiries please contact Chris Stevenson chair@westbergholt.net



Village Society and Community

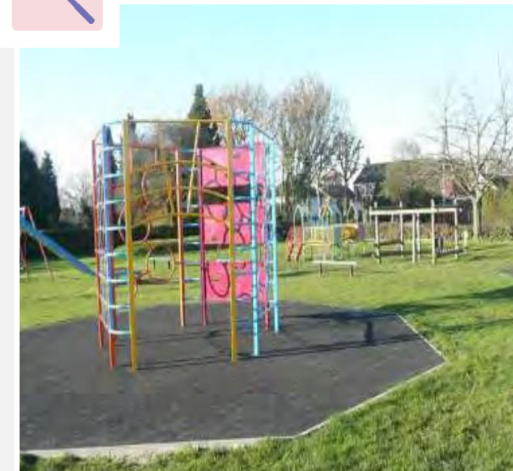


We believe that a thriving community needs the opportunity through great facilities to come together through social clubs, events and groups.

- We propose to maintain existing Village facilities and explore the further development of the Orpen Hall as a Community Centre.
- We will continue to promote and support Village societies and clubs.



Sports & Recreation



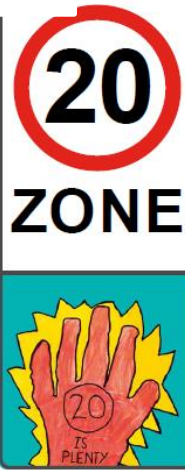
We intend to plan the future of recreation and sport facilities in order to provide increased opportunities to get active and participate in existing and new sport facilities.

- We have identified sites for possible further sport/recreation facilities which will be subject to more consultation.
- The existing Lorkin Daniell field recreation and sport area and Poors Land will continue to be managed to achieve a balance between informal recreation and formal sport activities.



Community Safety

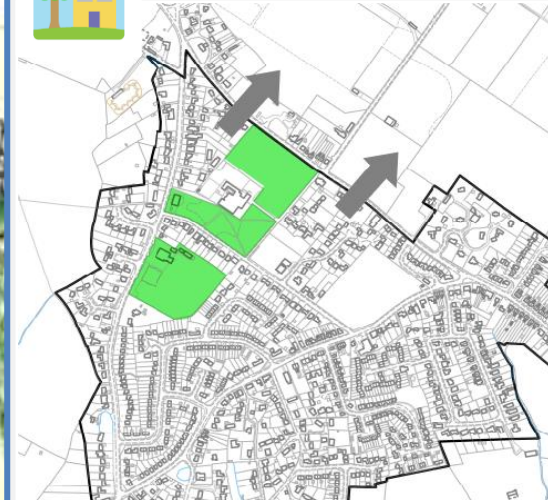
We aim to maintain West Bergholt as a safe and desirable place to live and work in.



- Neighbourhood Watch schemes will be supported in conjunction with the Police and other agencies
- Road safety issues will continue to be monitored and action plans will be produced to deal with problem areas.
- New developments will have to be designed so as to minimise the opportunities for crime as well as to conform to 20mph layouts.



Housing & Planning



We support limited and appropriate expansion in the Parish to satisfy the housing needs of villagers rather than solely the market driven forces of developers.

- We reject large scale development at the periphery of the village as unnecessary and undesirable. We wish the village to remain distinct from Colchester.
- Preference will be given to proposals which maximise affordable and smaller homes.
- Integration of open space, environmental features as well as sustainable transport options will be an integral part of any plans approved.



Business & Commerce



We want to create opportunities to work and trade locally by controlled expansion of existing employment facilities.

- The conversion of commercial premises into residential property or the use of associated land for such purposes will be resisted so as to preserve the employment opportunities which exist in the village and wider parish area.
- Any expansion of current business parks will be expected to make a positive contribution to the appearance of the parks and improvements to parking and access arrangements.



Transport, Highways & Infrastructure



We want to make travel by foot, bicycle, car and bus throughout the parish to be convenient and simple.

- Traffic management measures will seek to be introduced to control parking and to improve the environment for cycling and walking in residential streets and the wider countryside.
- Development areas must comply with safe traffic provisions.
- Sustainable travel awareness and opportunities will be furthered in order to achieve a low carbon travel environment.